REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 7 is amended for form. No new matter is added.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies to Applicant's representative by Examiners Poon and Nguyen in the January 15, 2009 personal interview. Applicant's Separate Record of the Personal Interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

During the personal interview, Applicant traversed the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of claims 1-14 over Matsuyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,886,028) in view of Lin (U.S. Patent No. 7,145,673) and further in view of Iwata (U.S. Patent No. 7,173, 718). The arguments presented in the personal interview paralleled the arguments provided in the Amendment filed December 29, 2008. The Examiners agreed that claims 1 and 7, as amended in the December 29, 2008 Amendment, overcame the above rejection.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, independent claims 1 and 7 are patentable over the above-applied references. Claims 2, 3-6, 8-11, 13 and 14, which variously depend from independent claims 1 and 7 are also patentable for at least their dependency on independent claims 1 and 7 as well as for the initial features they recite. Applicant thus respectfully requests withdraw of the rejection.

In view of the forgoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:PTM/sld

Date: January 16, 2009

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